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18. (Once Amended) A method of detecting *Streptococcus* nucleic acids in a biological sample obtained from an animal [involving assaying for one or more nucleic acid sequences encoding *Streptococcus* polypeptides in a sample] comprising:

C²
cont.
(a) contacting the biological sample with the nucleic acid of claim 198 [one or more of the above-described nucleic acid probes,] under conditions such that hybridization occurs, and

(b) detecting hybridization of said nucleic acid [one or more probes] to the [one or more] *Streptococcus* nucleic acid sequences present in the biological sample, wherein the detection of said hybridization is indicative of the presence of *Streptococcus* nucleic acids in said biological sample.

Please add the following claims:

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-- 263. (New) ⁷⁷⁰ A polypeptide produced according to the method of claim 234.

66 264. (New) ⁷⁷⁰ A polypeptide produced according to the method of claim 262.

C³ Sub E¹⁰
265. (New) The method of claim ⁶⁹ 17 wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acid residues 1 to 796 of SEQ ID NO:56.

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266. (New) The method of claim ⁶⁵ 265 wherein the animal is a human.

Sub E¹¹
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267. (New) The method of claim ⁶⁹ 17 wherein the polypeptide comprises an epitope-bearing portion of amino acid residues 1 to 796 of SEQ ID NO:56.

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268. (New) The method of claim ⁷² 267 wherein the animal is a human.--

Remarks

Claims 17, 18 and 198-268 will be pending upon entry of this amendment.

The specification has been amended, to insert the claim of priority to Provisional Application 60/029,960, filed October 31, 1996, to correct typographical errors, and to reflect